In re application of: Application No.:

SIFFERT, Not yet assigned Group: Examiner: No ssigned Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith (Continuation of 09/180,783 – Filed: 17 March 1999)

2329-2333). The coding region has an Ser codon (TCC) at position 275, while subjects with an increased risk of a disease associated with G protein dysregulation have the codon TCT, which likewise codes for Ser, at this position. The genetic modification is a base substitution at position 825 in which a cytosine (C) is replaced by thymine (T). However, this base exchange is "silent" at the amino-acid level, ie. It does not lead to incorporation of a different amino acid at this position. The sequence found in subjects with an increased risk of disease is depicted in SEQ ID NO:1 in the sequence listing.

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please cancel claims 2 -12 and add new claims 13-31 as follows:

- A method of diagnosing a disease comprising determining the presence of a genetic modification in a gene obtained from a subject which encodes a human G protein β_3 subunit.
- 14. The method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said disease is a disorder associated with G protein dysregulation.
- 15. The method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said gene which encodes a human G protein β_3 subunit is the gene of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 16. The method as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the genetic modification is in the codon for amino acid 275 in SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 17. The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the genetic modification is a substitution of cytosine by thymine at position 825 in SEQ ID NO: 1.

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- 18. The method as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the disorder is a cardiovascular disease, a metabolic disturbance or an immunological disease.
- 19. The method as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the disorder is hypertension.

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A method for establishing the relative risk of developing a disorder associated with G protein dysregulation for a subject, comprising the steps of:

- (I) determining the presence of a genetic modification in a gene obtained from a subject which encodes a human G protein β_3 subunit;
- (II) in the event the presence of a genetic modification is determined, assigning the subject an increased risk of disease.

The method as claimed in Claim 20, comprising comparing said gene obtained from a subject which encodes a human G protein β_3 subunit to the gene sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

- 22. The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the genetic modification which is determined is the presence of a thymine (T) at position 825 in the gene obtained from the subject.
- The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the presence of a genetic modification in the gene obtained from a subject is determined by sequencing.
- 24. The method as claimed in Claim 23, further comprising the step of amplifying the gene obtained from the subject before sequencing.
- 25. The method as claimed in Claim 23, wherein a section the gene from the host corresponding to position 825 in the gene of SEQ ID NO: 1 is amplified.

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- 26. The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the presence of a genetic modification in the gene obtained from the subject is determined by hybridization.
- 27. The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the presence of a genetic modification in the gene obtained from the subject is determined by cleavage using a restriction enzyme.
- 28. The method as claimed in Claim 27, wherein the restriction enzyme is Dsa I.
 - 29. A non-human transgenic animal comprising a gene which encodes a modified human G protein β_3 subunit.
 - 30. The non-human transgenic animal as claimed in Claim 29, which encodes a modified human G protein β_3 subunit of SEQ ID NO: 1.
 - The non-human transgenic animal as claimed in Claim 30, wherein said modified human G protein β_3 subunit includes a substitution of cytosine with thymine at position 825.

IN THE SEQUENCE LISTING:

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Please delete the Sequence Listing on pages 7-9 of the application, and insert the enclosed substitute Sequence Listing into the application.